



IMPACT



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Jesus
And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

Jesus is the reason for the season!

Proverbs ~ Ecclesiastes ~ Song of Solomon ~ **Isaiah** ~ Jeremiah ~ Lamentations ~ Ezekiel



3001 Riggs Avenue ~ Erlanger, KY 41018 ~ 859.727.6522

Jim's Journal



I have been very reflective as 2017 ends and I look forward to 2018. So many crazy things have transpired in 2017 that I could never imagined happening, but they did. Some bad... others SPECTACULAR! I saw God repeatedly perform miracles in the lives of people physically, emotionally, and spiritually! No matter what happens, seeing someone go from DEATH to LIFE NEVER GETS OLD!

The constant is prayer. My friend Dan Reiland recently wrote, "There is no wrong way to pray. Perhaps the only mistake in the realm of prayer is not to pray at all." WOW...that is simple, yet profound. In looking back over 40 years of serving Christ in the local church the one thing that I am constantly amazed by is the lack of confidence that Christ-followers have in prayer...and how to pray. I believe we adults make it a lot more complex than necessary and we need to replace that with the promise of life-changing power.

In Matthew 6:9-13 Jesus gave a famous lesson prayer...53 words long...SIMPLE...In this prayer Jesus reminds us that prayer is an invitation to experience intimate communication with God. It's an invitation to develop your faith. It's an invitation to change the world! Again, children get it; adults complicate it. Prayer is something anyone can do anytime.

With that in mind I am asking ALL of our NKBA churches to begin 2018 with a STRONG emphasis in prayer. I am asking every church to join together in a 40 Days of Prayer Emphasis starting January 24 going through March 4. I consistently find myself repeating II Chronicles 7:14 "If my people, who are called by my name will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

We have never faced the level of spiritual warfare and evil than we are seeing today. John 4:35 tells us to "Lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest." Our churches have the greatest opportunity that we have had in a lifetime. There have never been more lost and far from God...addicted and enslaved to all kinds of things that our enemy has leveraged to drag as many lives down as possible. We have the opportunity to change the world and our communities and I believe it ONLY begins when the people of God are broken about the things that break the heart of God.

SO, I want to exhort you to PRAY BIG! Jesus prayed "Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." Jesus died for the whole world and His Kingdom Agenda indicates that God "is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all come to repentance." (II Peter 3:9)

On March 2-3 the Northern Kentucky Baptist Association will gather for a Spiritual Awakening Conference at 7:00 PM at Burlington Baptist Church. I am inviting all our churches to come together to worship and to align ourselves with the heart of God to go into this harvest and see God do a new work in our lives and in our communities. We need to ask God to stir a spiritual awakening in our country from the White House to each of our doorsteps.

PRAY BIG and PRAY SPECIFIC. "The more focused and specific your prayers are, the more confidence you'll gain when God answers. (Reiland)" Pray for people BY NAME you know who are lost and far from God. Expect to see a great harvest!

Finally, PRAY NOW and PRAY WITHOUT CEASING! We will provide resources on our website and a new Facebook event page on our 40 Days of Prayer. But, please, I plead with you, join together in this effort and let's see what God will do in our day and time!

Merry Christmas to you all! I look forward to a great 2018!

Following Him,

Jim



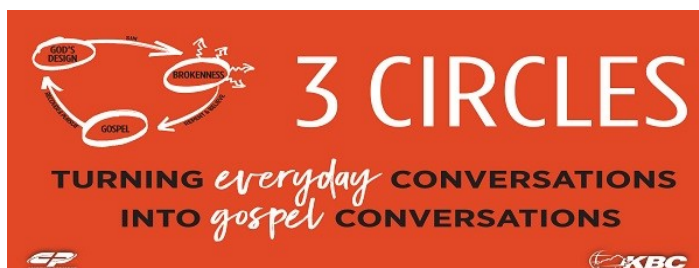
NKBA Christmas Open House

December 7, 2017

12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Come visit the NKBA Building on December 7th to celebrate with us.

We will have food, beverages and music. Come enjoy Christmas merriment and let us thank you for your support!



3 Circles Evangelism Training On two Saturdays, January 6th and 13th 9:00 a.m. to Noon, at the NKBA office

Each church that attends will receive a free training kit. Contact the NKBA office to register or register on our website at the "Registration" tab. In the "comments" field, please include the name of the training for which you are registering.

Pastors' Round Table Monday, January 8, 10:00 a.m.

Our featured speaker is Rob Patterson, KBC Regional Consultant for the North Central Region. Contact the NKBA office to register, or register on the NKBA website on the registration tab. Please include the name and date of the session you wish to attend.



Rob Patterson



Evangelism Coaching Thursday, January 18, 2018 6 p.m.—8 p.m. With Rev. Steve Ayers At the NKBA Office

Contact the NKBA office to register or use the registration tab on the NKBA website. Include date and the session name on the website registration form.

The NKBA is asking that every church join together in **40 Days of Prayer**, January 24—March 5. A prayer guide will be provided on the NKBA website. In addition, there are hardcopy prayer books available at the NKBA office to guide your prayers.



Coming to Northern Kentucky!

June 16-22, 2018

Kentucky Changers is a ministry that provides middle and high school students with the opportunity to serve their community in the name of Christ. The students, along with adult volunteers, provide exterior home improvement and maintenance for qualified homeowners. KY Changers makes a life impact on everyone involved!

We are asking your church to get involved!

What can you do the help? Many things, including:

- ♦ **Register your youth** to serve that week. Any number of students in your church can participate!
- ♦ **Be an adult volunteer** to assist the work teams. Men and women with construction skills will teach the students the skills needed to complete the project..
- ♦ **Host a crew** of 10-14 at your church on Sunday morning for Sunday School, Worship, and a lunch. After lunch you will go with the crew to visit the homeowner and prayer walk the area. Monday through Thursday, your church will provide sack lunches to the jobsite and stay for lunch and devotion. (Lunches for all crews will be prepared at a central location.)
- ♦ **Provide funding** for materials! It costs between \$1,000-\$1,500 per home and we expect to do 20-30 homes in Northern Kentucky. Every church can contribute something, and every dollar matters!
- ♦ **Apply to receive home repair assistance.** Call or email the NKBA at nkychangers18@gmail.com for an application.
- ♦ **Pray.** We need your prayers! We need someone from every church on our prayer team. Contact Lori at lorne@nkbaptist.org or at the NKBA office and sign up for our KY Changers prayer updates!

You will be hearing more about the KY Changers event. In the meantime, please contact the NKBA office for more information or for a homeowner's application for assistance. Applications are due by December 31, 2017.

Contact www.kywmu.org/changers to register your youth or to register as an adult volunteer. Thank you!

Church Security Workshop

Saturday, January 27, from 9 AM-2 PM
Southside Baptist Church, Covington, KY

This will be taught by Kentucky State Police officers from our region. Registration will be \$10 and will include a continental breakfast, lunch and materials. Two hours will be spent in training and two hours will be spent in LIVE SCENARIOS to help you prepare for REAL LIFE situations. This is open for ALL churches and leaders. This should be attended by church leaders and those who would serve on security teams within our churches. Call Lori at the NKBA office, 859-727-6522, to register.

Northern Kentucky Baptist Association

3001 Riggs Avenue
Erlanger, KY 41018-3045
December 2017

Address Service Requested

**Mark Your Calendars
Upcoming Events**

- December 3-9 — Week of Prayer for International Missions (Lottie Moon)
- December 7 — Noon-7pm, NKBA Office Christmas Open House
- December 21 — Barnabas Prayer Group, 8:30am & 7pm, NKBA Office
- December 25 — Christmas Day
- December 25, 2017 - January 1, 2018— NKBA Office Closed
- January 2, 2018—NKBA Office reopens, Happy New Year!

